BJA's Visiting Fellows Program supports collaborations between BJA staff and criminal justice practitioners and researchers to develop strategies and tools to address gaps in priority and emerging issues. The centerpiece is a residency at BJA, where Fellows work onsite for 6-12 months. The goal of the fellowships is to make important policy and programmatic recommendations in a priority area of criminal justice practice. Fellows work in collaboration with BJA and Department of Justice staff to help provide critical outreach, data, research, and subject-matter expertise to inform the development of new BJA strategies and programs to benefit the field.

In FY 2015, BJA again intends to release a solicitation with opportunities for fellowships. The following BJA Policy teams will be seeking fellows to enhance their areas of focus: Justice Systems, Law Enforcement & Adjudication, and Strategic Initiatives. The Justice Systems group intends to seek out a Second Chance Fellow, a formerly incarcerated individual who has substantial expertise as a policy advocate, legal or social services provider, or academic. The selected Second Chance Fellow will provide expertise and perspective to inform BJA's Second Chance Act and other criminal justice programming and to engage in the Federal Interagency Reentry Council.

The Law Enforcement & Adjudication team is considering fellows to enhance work in the following areas: Crime Analysis, Criminal Intelligence, Policing, Prosecution, Witness Intimidation, and to support the Violence Reduction Network. The Strategic Initiatives Unit has expressed interest in bringing on two fellows, one to enhance program capacity and implementation and the other to bring physical design expertise to enhance community justice and safety. The Justice Information Sharing group plans to seek a fellow to focus on Cyber Crimes.

BJA currently has four fellows in residence: Dr. Craig Uchida (law enforcement data and performance management); Kristine Hamann (prosecution leadership and integrity); Tara Kunkel (prescription drug abuse); and Dr. Laura Wyckoff (crime analysis) who is preparing to leave.

For more information about BJA's Visiting Fellows Program, please contact Priya Sarathy Jones at priya.sarathy-jones@usdoj.gov.